GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1083
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
REPLACEMENT OF COOLANT CHANNELS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to replace the coolant channels at Narora and other Nuclear Power Stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be done alongwith life expectancy of the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) In the earlier Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (upto KAPS-1 which started operations in the year 1993), the coolant channel assemblies were made of zircalloy-2, which had a life of about 8.5 Effective Full Power Years (EFPY). These are required to be replaced after the end of their service life. The En masse Coolant Channel Replacement (EMCCR) is currently underway at Narora Atomic Power Station-1. Narora Atomic Power Station -2 and Kakrapar Atomic Power Station-1 are the other reactors where EMCCR is to be taken up. Reactors beyond KAPS-1 use coolant channels of superior material which has much longer life.

(b) The sanctioned cost for EMCCR of NAPS-1&2 is Rs. 247 crore.

(c) The EMCCR and safety upgrades need about two years for each reactor. NAPS-2 & KAPS-1 EMCCR is planned for the year 2006 & 2007. After the en-masse coolant channel replacement, the reactor will function for another 25-30 years.